

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 There is disclosed a process of treating or alleviating the
symptoms of pathological conditions in which bone density is decreased, which
comprises inhibiting, in a mammalian patient suffering from such a condition, the
formation in vivo of a tertiary complex of IL-11, its cell surface membrane receptor
and the cell surface glycoprotein gp130. Examples of such substances are
10 recombinant soluble IL-11 receptor mutants modified, as compared with native
IL-11 receptor, at their gp130 binding site, and peptides which can interact with
IL-11. The process of the invention not only inhibits bone resorption and hence
bone loss, but also increases the process of bone formation to increase bone
density.
